

Message Text

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SUBJ: CONSULAR STAFFING SHORTAGES

REF: MEXICO 6616

FOR ACKERMAN FROM CALDERHEAD

IN AN ATTEMPT TO FIND A TEMPORARY SOLUTION TO OUR CHRONIC STAFFING SHORTAGES IN THE CONSULAR SECTION, THE AMBASSADOR HAS SUGGESTED THE RE-APPOINTMENT ON A CONSULTANT BASIS OF RETIRED FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS IN THE MEXICO CITY AREA WHO HAVE HAD CONSULAR EXPERIENCE.

OBVIOUSLY THERE ARE SEVERAL ADVANTAGES TO THIS: IF WE CAN EMPLOY RETIRED OFFICERS WHEN WE URGENTLY NEED THEM DURING OUR PEAK LOAD PERIODS, THIS WOULD OBTAIN THE NECESSITY FOR EXPENSIVE TDYS. WE WOULD BE ABLE TO APPOINT THE RETIRED OFFICERS FOR RELATIVELY SHORT PERIODS AND IT WOULD BE A SAVINGS TO THE DEPARTMENT AS WELL AS AFFORDING US A VEHICLE BY WHICH WE COULD MEET OUR STAFFING NEEDS.

THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS ARE IN THE MEXICO CITY AREA AND WE BELIEVE THEY MIGHT BE AVAILABLE TO US ON A TEMPORARY BASIS. SINCE THEY HAVE ALL BEEN COMMISSIONED CONSULAR OFFICERS, IF REINSTATED THEY WOULD BE ABLE TO ASSIST WITH ACTUAL VISA ISSUANCE.

1) CHARLES E. CONDON, A FOREIGN SERVICE STAFF OFFICER IN THE CONSULAR SERVICE.

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2) SAMUEL H. YOUNG, WHO RETIRED FROM HIS POSITION AS

PRINCIPAL OFFICER AT THE CONSULATE IN VERACRUZ.

3) WALLACE W. STUART, WHO SERVED AS POLITICA COUNSELOR
IN MEXICO CITY.

4) (JULIO GONZALES, CONSULAR OFFICER WHO RETIRED MARCH 30, 1975
IS EMPLOYED FULL TIME IN MEXICO CITY AND IS NOT
INTERESTED IN TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT.)
THERE MAY BE OTHER OFFICERS IN THIS AREA THAT WE ARE UNAWARE OF.
IT IS SUGGESTED THAT THE RETIREMENT BRANCH BE CONTACTED TO
ASCERTAIN IF THERE ARE OTHER OFFICERS IN THIS CATEGORY.
WE REALIZE THAT THERE MAY BE BUREAUCRATIC STUMBLING BLOCKS, SUCH
AS REINSTATEMENT OF COMMISSIONS, AND THE REQUIREMENT FOR A

SECURITY CLEARANCE. WE FEEL, HOWEVER, THAT THESE CAN BE
OVERCOME WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S HELP AND IF WE ALL USE A LOT OF
IMAGINATION.

IT CERTAINLY WOULD BE TO THE ADVANTAGE OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE
AND THE EMBASSY IF WE COULD DEVELOP A RESERVOIR OF
EXPERIENCE OFFICERS THAT WE COULD TAP WHEN THE NEED
IS GREATEST.

I WOULD APPRECIATE IT VERY MUCH IF THE BUREAU COULD
CHECK AND ASCERTAIN THE ROUTE WE WOULD HAVE TO GO
TO EMPLOY RETIRED OFFICERS. WE HAVE NOT CONTACTED ANY
OF THOSE LISTED ABOVE SO WE ARE NOT SURE AT THIS
POINT HOW MANY, IF ANY, ARE INTERESTED. AS SOON AS WE
KNOW THAT THIS ROUTE IS A FEASIBLE ONE, WE WILL GET IN
TOUCH WITH THE OFFICERS IN QUESTION AND ASCERTAIN
WHETHER OR NOT THEY ARE AVAILABLE.
BRANDIN

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